2014 Annual Report South Dakota Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission

The Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission hereby

files this report with the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education.

The Commission is charged with the responsibility of reviewing possible violations of the code of ethics for teachers. When the Commission determines that cause exists

to believe a teacher has violated the code of ethics, the Commission holds a contested

case hearing. Ultimately, the Commission may reprimand or recommend a disciplinary

action which may be implemented by the appropriate governing body against a member

of the teaching profession if the member has been determined by the Commission to

have violated the code of ethics established under SDCL 13-43-25. If the Commission

determines that proceedings to revoke or suspend the certificate of a teacher should be

instituted, the Commission files a written complaint with the Secretary of the South

Dakota Department of Education.

During calendar year 2014, the Commission received 15 complaints. The

Commission met on 13 occasions and reviewed three complaints filed in 2013 and 14

complaints filed in 2014 (the 15th complaint received in 2014 came in after the

Commission's final meeting in 2014). The Commission held nine contested hearings in

2014, and conducted three investigations. The Commission issued four private reprimands.

Eight complaints were dismissed, one complaint was withdrawn, and three complaints

were referred to the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education for

proceedings to revoke or suspend a certificate. Two complaints remain pending at the end

of 2014.

Dated: January 22, 2015

Professional Teachers Practices & Standards Commission